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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 666
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to request the Department of Human Services and the Bureau of TennCare to provide certain information to Committees of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, the Federal Government provides a variety of financial assistance to states in areas of pressing concern to Tennesseans, including welfare reform initiatives, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, these financial resources could materially affect or benefit the implementation of Tennessee's Families First and TennCare programs; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-4-124, provides for informing members of the General Assembly of the availability of sources of federal funds through the Department of Finance and Administration; and

WHEREAS, in order for the General Assembly to effectively oversee the operation of important programs such as TennCare and Families First, the appropriate standing committees of the General Assembly need to be informed of new funding sources and opportunities; and

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WHEREAS, the House Health and Human Resources Committee and the Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee are standing committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate with a share of legislative oversight responsibility for TennCare and Families First; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services and the Bureau of TennCare work directly with these critical programs; thus, it is appropriate for those agencies to inform the appropriate standing committees in a timely manner of new, federal funding sources and opportunities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Department of Human Services and the Bureau of TennCare are requested to inform the House Health and Human Resources Committee and the Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee of new federal funding sources and opportunities or significant changes in federal funding relating to the federal programs for Medicaid and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families throughout each year, within ten (10) days of being notified of the availability of such funds or information.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Human Services and the Director of the Bureau of TennCare.